

Response  
Application No. 10/849,370  
Attorney Docket No. 042387

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By way of this Amendment, claims 1 and 18 have been amended, claims 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 15-17 and 20 have been cancelled, and claim 21 has been newly added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated March 16, 2007.

#### **As to the Merits:**

Claims 1-5, 16-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshida et al. Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida in view of Abe et al. Claims 8-15 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida in view of Corrigan, III.

Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

Yoshida et al. discloses utilizing current from reverse bias voltage so that a light emission start of an organic EL element can be made rapid when a constant current source is employed as a drive source which drives the EL element to emit light. The current from the reverse bias voltage is supplied to the EL element which is object of scanning and lighting as a forward current only for a brief moment of starting time of a light emission drive. In Yoshida et al., the light emission drive is executed by utilizing the constant current source after the light emission start of the organic EL element.

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On the other hand, this invention is characterized in that the current from the reverse bias voltage is used in the light emission drive during and after the starting time of a light emission drive.

Further, Yoshida et al. fails to disclose a structure of “a gradation control means which can change repeating times of scans within a unit time,” as called for in amended claim 1.

Only a normal scan mode in a normal passive matrix type, which all scan lines in a luminescence display panel are repeatedly scanned to control light emission, is disclosed in paragraph [0038] pointed out by the examiner. It is not described or suggested that a gradation is controlled by varying repeating times of scans within a unit time.

Therefore, amended claim 1 has novelty, since it is not anticipated by Yoshida et al.

In addition, a structure of “a gradation control means which can change repeating times of scans within a unit time” described in amended claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested in the other cited documents, Abe et al., and Corrigan III. Therefore, this invention is not obvious even when combining those two documents and Yoshida et al.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicant submits that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.

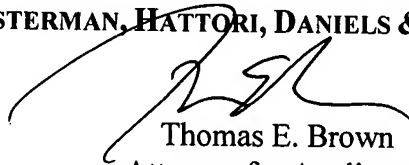
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant’s undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TEB', is written over the firm name.

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